

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A preparation to remove tattoos, ~~characterized in that it includes comprising:~~

an aqueous solution of an alkali chloride with a pH value less than 7, and  
further an oil, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the concentration of the alkali chloride in the aqueous solution is in the range of 10-20 % ~~weight~~ by weight.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~ The preparation as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the alkali chloride is sodium chloride.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~ The preparation as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the pH of the solution is less than 4.0, preferably less than 3.4.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~ The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 3, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the pH value of the solution is larger than 1.5, preferably larger than 1.8.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~ The preparation as claimed in claim 1 ~~through~~

5, ~~characterized in that it~~wherein the preparation contains a weak acid with an acid constant  $10^{-2} \text{ mol/ltr} > K_1 > 10^{-5} \text{ mol/ltr}$ , preferably a fruit acid.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 5~~, ~~characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation contains a citrus fruit juice, preferably pineapple juice.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 6~~, ~~characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the concentration of the alkali chloride in the aqueous solution is within the range of 10 - 20 and preferably 12 - 16.5 % ~~weight~~by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the preparation ~~it additionally~~ contains additionally an oil, preferably coconut oil, or coconut milk.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the aqueous, acid solution and the oil are mixed in a ratio of 3/1 to 1/1, preferably being two parts water to one part oil.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the aqueous, acid solution is citrus fruit juice and the oil is coconut milk.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 10, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation additionally contains starch, preferably in the form of potato juice.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 11, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation contains one or several additives, preferably preservatives, oxidizers, whitening agents or buffers.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 12, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation is formulated in a form applicable to the skin, preferably as a cream, an oil, a foam, a gel, an emulsion, a solution or a patch.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a tattoo-removing preparation  
~~Using~~using an aqueous solution of an alkali chloride having a pH value less than 7.0  
~~with a further~~and an oil ingredient to prepare ~~at~~the tattoo-removing preparation.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of tattoo removal comprising the steps of:  
preparing a ~~Tattoo-removing~~tattoo-removing preparation ~~characterized in that~~  
wherein the preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 13includes an  
aqueous solution of an alkali chloride with a pH value less than 7 and an oil, and  
is depositeddepositing the preparation on a tattooed skin segment ~~and in~~such

that skin penetration by the preparation is enhanced.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~wherein enhancement of preparation penetration is implemented by ~~{skin}~~ massaging/kneading the tattooed skin segment and in that the preparation is propagated by diffusion toward ~~the~~a dye-bearing skin layer.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the preparation is moved mechanically toward ~~the~~a sub-cutaneous dye to be removed.

19. (Currently Amended) An implement to carry out ~~the~~a method ~~defined in one of claims 16 through 18,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ of tattoo removal, wherein a tool (3) is used which introduces ~~the~~a preparation ~~claimed in one of claims 1 through 13~~for removing tatoos into ~~the~~a dyed skin layer, in that ~~this~~the tool is fitted with a set of needles (30) and a support (20; 41) for ~~same~~the set of needles, in that the needles (30) are spaced apart from, and end-wise connected to, one another, in that the interconnected needles are affixed to the support (20; 41) and in that such a tool (3) is connected to a drive component in a manner that said tool can be exchanged with another tool (3).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Implement~~The implement as claimed in claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the drive component comprises a drive unit (5) and an elongated transmission element (10, 41), in that said transmission element (10; 41)

is connected end-wise to the drive unit and in that the tool (3) is affixed in an exchangeable manner to the other end of said transmission element.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Implement~~The implement as claimed in claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the transmission element (10; 41) is a connecting ~~rod~~rod (10), in that the support for the needles (30) comprises a bolt (20) and in that said bolt is connected for instance by a bush (19) to one end of the connecting rod (10).